

## Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 MC-02 AID-05 IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 H-02

/052 W

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R 281342Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8814

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO CINCSOUTH QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 0765

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PFOR, EC

SUBJECT: FY 1976 MAP TRAIHUNG FOR ECUADOR

REF: QUITO 0374 (DTG 151402Z JAN 76), USCINCSO DTG 171724Z JAN 76

1. IN WASHINGTON'S WEIGHING AN APPROACH TO THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOREIGN OPERATIONS REGARDING THE LATTER'S REQUEST TO FREEZE FY 76 MAP TRAINING FOR ECUADOR AT THE FY 75 LEVEL, I BELIEVE THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION MAY BE OF VALUE.

2. STATE AND DEFENSE AUTHORIZED THE EMBASSY ON OCTOBER 31ST, 1975 TO INFORM THE GOE OF THE AMOUNTS OF MILITARY SECURITY ASSISTANCE BEING REQUESTED FOR FY 76 (JOINT STATE:DEFENSE 258167, DTG 310004Z OCT 75). CHUSMLO INFORMED THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE, GENERAL ARRATA, ON NOVEMBER 4TH, 1975, IN WRITING, OF THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN STATE 258167. CHUSMLO AND I MET WITH MINISTER OF DEFENSE ARRATA ON NOVEMBER 7TH TO REVIEW OUR TOTAL PROPOSED SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR ECUADOR IN FY 1976/7T, DRAWING ON INFORMATION CONTAINED IN STATE 258167 (REPORTED IN QUITO 8152). ALTHOUGH WE CAVEATED OUR PRESENTATION WITH THE REMARK THAT THE AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED BY THE PRESIDENT MUST BE AUTHORIZED AND APPROPRIATED BY

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CONGRESS, IT WILL OBVIOUSLY BE DAMAGING FOR US TO HAVE TO

GO BACK TO THE ECUADOREANS NOW TO TELL THEM THAT CONGRESS HAS ASKED THAT THE LEVEL OF MAP TRAINING, WHICH WAS JUST THIS YEAR BEGINNING TO REACH ITS ANTICIPATED ANNUAL PROGRAM LEVEL, MUST BE FROZEN AT HALF THE PLANNED FIGURE.

3. TO SAY THAT THIS ACTION WILL PUT A ROYAL DAMPER ON OUR, AND MY PERSONAL, RELATIONS WITH THE HEAD OF THE NEW MILITARY JUNTA, ADMIRAL POVEDA, IS TO PUT AN UNJUSTIFIABLY CHARITABLE CAST ON THE MATTER. POVEDA HAS BEEN THE ONE SERVICE CHIEF MOST INTERESTED IN GETTING US/ECUADOREAN RELATIONS BACK ON AN EVEN KEEL FOLLOWING THE PROBLEMS WHICH FORMERLY PLAGUED OUR RELATIONSHIP. POVEDA HAS PERSONALLY INSISTED THAT THE ECUADOREAN NAVY GEAR ITSELF UP TO RECEIVE TRAINING, WHICH IT WAS UNABLE TO DO IN THE IMMEDIATE AFTERMATH OF THE RESUMPTION OF AN FMS/MAP TRAINING RELATIONSHIP PRECISELY BECAUSE THE 4-YEAR HIATUS IN MAP TRAINING HAD LEFT IT WITHOUT AN ADEQUATE NUMBER OF OFFICERS WHO COULD MEET THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS. AND, AS THE DEPARTMENT IS FULLY AWARE, HE HAS BEEN HELPFUL TO US ON OTHER IMPORTANT MATTERS.

4. IN ADDITION, THE US MILITARY LIAISON OFFICE HAS (UNFORTUNATELY) ADHERED RIGOROUSLY TO BOTH THE LETTER AND SPIRIT OF THE CRA FUNDING INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND DEFENSE. THUS, HALF-WAY THROUGH FY 76, IT HAS SPENT ALMOST HALF OF THE FUNDS WHICH WE ANTICIPATED WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR THE WHOLE FISCAL YEAR. WE ARE NOW WITHIN 4 TO 6 WEEKS OF EXHAUSTING THE FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR MAP TRAINING IF WE ARE FORCED TO FREEZE MAP/T FUNDING AT THE FY 76 LEVEL (\$400,000). TO TOP IT OFF, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT WITH DOD-INSTRUCTED COST INCREASES IN ALL TRAINING PROGRAMS, THE PLANNED \$800,000 LEVEL WILL NOW BUY CONSIDERABLY LESS THAN COULD HAVE BEEN BOUGHT PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 1976. EVEN AT THE ANTICIPATED \$800,000 FIGURE, ECUADOR WILL THUS STILL NOT BE ABLE TO OBTAIN THE AMOUNT OF TRAINING PREVIOUSLY HOPED FOR.

5. WHILE I CAN UNDERSTAND THE DESIRE OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TO ALLOW CONGRESS A FULL REVIEW OF THE MAP TRAINING PROGRAM, I VERY STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT  
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THE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF THIS CASE WARRANT AN APPEAL TO THE CHAIRMAN TO ALLOW THE MAP TRAINING PROGRAM TO GO AHEAD TO ITS FULL PLANNED LEVEL. CONGRESSIONAL INSISTENCE ON FREEZING MAP TRAINING AT LEAST YEAR'S LEVEL (ONE HALF OF THIS YEAR'S LEVEL BECAUSE IT WAS THE FIRST YEAR IN WHICH THE PROGRAM WAS RESUMED FOLLOWING A 4-YEAR HIATUS) WILL HAVE PRECISELY THE SAME EFFECT ON US/ECUADOREAN RELATIONS AS NOTIFYING THE GOE THAT WE INTEND TO CUT BOTH

MAP TRAINING AND FMS CREDITS BY HALF. THE DIFFERENCE MAY WELL BE THAT, ON TOP OF ALL THE OTHER CONGRESSIONALLY IMPOSED SANCTIONS IMPINGING ON ECUADOR IN THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS, JUST AS THEY ARE TRYING TO REBUILD THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH US, THIS MAY BE THE LAST STRAW THEY ARE PREPARED TO SEE BROKEN.

6. FINALLY, I NOTE FROM USCINCSO 171724Z JAN 76 THAT THE SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOREIGN OPERATIONS HAS GRANTED A WAIVER, SIMILAR TO THE ONE REQUESTED HEREIN, FOR HAITI, WHOSE MAP/T CIRCUMSTANCES IN FY 75 WERE VERY SIMILAR TO THOSE PREVAILING IN ECUADOR. I DO NOT BELIEVE IT IS UNREASONABLE FOR STATE AND DEFENSE TO APPROACH THE SUBCOMMITTEE AND ASK THAT SIMILAR CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO ECUADOGKM BREWSTER

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